

A Memorial
and
A Tribute

Joseph Franklin Carpenter

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In Memory

of

Joseph Franklin Carpenter

Born Marengo, Illinois

July Twenty-eighth, 1861.

Died Omaha, Nebraska

December Twenty-third, 1907.

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To Our Friends:

The publication of this little booklet containing the letters and expressions of esteem of our departed brother, J. Frank Carpenter, was delayed primarily on account of my absence one year ago. Upon my return from an eight months trip abroad the matter was turned over to me and I assume the responsibility for the delay.

Notwithstanding more than a year has elapsed since the death of our brother, the loss is almost as keen today as when first he left us. We miss his strong personality, strong spirit and courage when perplexing matters arise. After an association of nearly twenty-two years in business together we greatly miss his presence, counsel and inspiration. But as we see our duty, it is to press forward in the work which he helped to make successful and with the assistance of a kind Providence we are moving forward.

Yours very truly,

J. W. Carpenter,

President.



TO GIVE an estimate of a person's character, in faithfulness, is no small task. When one has expressed himself to his best ability, words seem poor and the work is imperfect. J. Frank Carpenter was a many-sided person. He had many "talents." His life touched every man's life with whom he came in contact, at a point which called out the best in his fellow man. His presence, with good cheer, strength, manliness and courage, manifest in every movement, drove away doubt, fear and weakness. The greatest treasure a man will bear away from this earth is the golden treasure of friendship. The bough our hands can break from the tree of life and carry home to heaven—the golden bough of friendship. These are the true treasures of the heart that moth cannot corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal. The friend hangs rich draperies on the walls of the heart. When Lyman Beecher was dying some person whispered and asked him: "Do you remember Dr. Taylor?" The old man felt a thrill of grateful memory and, putting his hand over his heart, said: "Part of me; part of me." A man who can get into other men and live in those other men is a great man. Such was our beloved friend "Frank," as many loved to call him. All members of our community, rich and poor, young and old, agreed: "Here is a big-hearted brother for us all."

EDWARD R. CURRY.



IT IS certainly very fitting that Mr. J. Frank Carpenter should have such a memorial as that proposed. I am sure, however, that all his friends who are invited to furnish a tribute of appreciation of his character and worth will feel the utter inadequacy of words to express the impressions made by such a life. A friend of mine who had known Mr. Carpenter for years, in writing me recently said: "He was the best friend I ever had." Hedrew men to him and held them with the strong bonds of truest friendship. There was no selfishness in his friendship. He was always ready to bear his part, and more, in every worthy enterprise. When he heard the call of duty he did not wait to see what others would do but acted promptly and cheerfully, thus often leading the way.

Duty to him was privilege and opportunity rather than task or burden. He had a ready insight into conditions and situations which rendered his counsel of great value. A man of prayer and faith, he saw large possibilities in life and was confident and hopeful, and at the same time was wisely conservative and held back from radical and unsafe measures. He was a hospitable, generous, loveable, manly, genial, strong, brotherly, Christian man.

J. W. CONLEY.



WE ALL honor the man who by diligence and worth rises to pre-eminence among his fellows, but when with this success is combined a genial and generous disposition, a deep sense of equity, justice and liberality, an example that spurs others on to earnest effort in developing for themselves and others a high standard of business methods, we feel that we can ill afford to lose his presence and example.

Associated with him in many ways and under many trying circumstances, there never developed in him a weak or blind side.

My strongest impressions of him were his unselfishness, his patient courtesy and consideration for others.

Always alert, vigorous and aggressive, his keen business judgment, coupled with his warm and generous heart, made a valued friend and counselor who was always to be relied upon.

His loyalty of purpose and fidelity to duty, his disposition to guard and promote the best interests of the City at the sacrifice of his personal inclinations and business interests, were ever present, and never lightly considered or shirked.

He leaves to his family and friends the priceless possession of an honored name, and to his associates the memory of a loved, loving and honored friend who was always forceful and energetic in carrying forward any good work.

To me he was the ideal of a Christian gentleman with a magnetic personality that carried influence and left a deep impression on his associates; a representative citizen of a great Republic, whose memory we revere and whose example and principles we will treasure as an inspiration to us to leave a similar record when we pass on.

W. S. WRIGHT.



I FIRST heard of J. Frank Carpenter through my sister, travelling for the first time from home and befriended by this kind stranger. The incident proved quite typical of the man as I later learned to know him—unselfish, thoughtful, generously kind. Graced with a cheerfulness of disposition, he affected those whom he met, as with a noble contagion. Endowed with a democratic spirit, wealth never changed the approachable man within. A man of sympathetic impulse, he proved also a loyal friend. I am glad I ever knew him.

B. F. FELLMAN.



IN THE passing away of J. Frank Carpenter, Omaha lost one of its sterling business men; the church of which he was a member, one of its most constant and consistent members; and all who are working for the city's betterment in every direction, one who lived and moved and his being for the things that make for righteousness and the truest prosperity of the city.

Frank Carpenter was a man, every inch of him from the crown of his head to the sole of his feet.

He was a religious man, sincerely; deeply religious, but there was no cant whatever about him or his religion. His religion was of that virile, manly type, and which manifested itself in deeds, rather than an excess of words.

He was an honest man—transparently honest and true, and if an "honest man is the noblest work of God," J. Frank Carpenter was one of heaven's noblemen.

The question was once asked with regard to a certain person: "Is he a Christian?" The somewhat cynical answer immediately given by the one to whom the question was addressed, was "How do I know? I never lived with him. Ask his wife."

Personally, I can say, he whose death brought such unspeakable sorrow to us all, was one who stood this test.

For twelve years I was his pastor; for ten of those years, if I did not live with him, at least I was his next door neighbor. I had seen him, and been with him at all times and under all circumstances, and never, by look or word or act, was he other than the true, unselfish, generous, large-hearted, manly man, that he always was.

He was everybody's friend. He made friends easily and kept them because of the magnetism of his frank, generous nature. Rightly was he named "Frank" for that he was.

When the despatch came to me announcing his death, I felt then as I do still, that one of my best, if not my best, and staunchest friend, had gone.

The world seems poorer to me now that he is no more. In my own home, among the members of my family, the Christmas season was a season of mourning rather than joy, because "Uncle Frank" was not—as they were wont lovingly to call him and refer to him.

It makes the beyond more attractive to me—the thought that over there is that noble soul, where by and by we shall meet him, when the day breaks and the shadows flee away.

THOS. ANDERSON.



THE LIFE and Character of J. Frank Carpenter was like a beacon light set upon a hill for the guidance of all who came within the sphere of his influence, commercially, socially and spiritually.

Man being the last and highest type of the creation of the Almighty is endowed with a trinity of natures; the physical which alone asserts itself at birth; the moral which asserts itself during the period of youth, either for good or bad; and the spiritual which may remain dormant through the major portion of a long life, but is sure to assert itself at some period of a mature life. In J. Frank Carpenter the trinity was brought into action early in life. He spent his life in painstaking development of the three natures, and the heritage he has left in his life to his family, his friends and his associates in every walk of life, is worthy of emulation by all mankind.

GEO. F. BIDWELL.



IN SPEAKING simply with generous appreciation of him whose death has made the community mourn:

His success was not through luck but the result of faithfulness, sleepless energy, iron purpose, determination and clearness of insight; his virtue is written on the hardest metal for man's example.

A death so taken into account is of benefit to the race of men and makes the world better.

The attendance to the funeral illustrates how grandly he had lived in the esteem of his fellow citizens, and business associates had never accorded greater distinction to any one.

Frank Carpenter's great characteristic was his sublime and unflinching courage; it was of that kind that no impression could be made upon by opposition, which we all realized especially on one occasion at an executive committee meeting at the Commercial Club; almost to a man being in opposition with him, when he plead with the Committee that they were making a mistake.

Later he publicly defended the majority when they were reprimanded for their action. This showed his unselfishness, never stopping to consider how an action would effect him personally.

All he wanted was what is just and right. And who does not regret the death of such a man?

Heaven is the gainer, earth the loser.

WILL L. YETTER.



I CANNOT hope adequately to express myself on the deeds and virtues of J. Frank Carpenter. It was my good fortune to meet him about ten years ago when I first came to Omaha. His advice and words of encouragement during my first years here were of great assistance to me. He was always ready to help along any individuals or enterprise that was deserving and of benefit to the community. His name has been associated with most all of the organizations that have existed in our city during his life here, that have had as their purpose the upbuilding of the moral and commercial standing of Omaha.

Omaha and her people will not forget J. Frank Carpenter. As time goes on, how often shall we, whose privilege it has been to know and associate with this plain, honest man, conjure up and muse upon his noble character, keen intellect, kindly acts and loyal friendship?

F. W. JUDSON.



J. FRANK CARPENTER was one of God's Noblemen; to know him was to love him, kind, generous and charitable to all, yet with a firmness that could not be swerved when he knew he was right, and he had the courage of his convictions and expressed them freely when roused. He took an active interest in public affairs, he believed in good citizenship and civic virtue; with high ideals and unquestioned integrity, he had to the fullest extent the esteem, confidence and affection of his fellow men, and his untimely taking off in the height of his usefulness was an irreparable loss not only to his family, but the community in which he lived. Our only consolation is, "The world is better for his having lived."

JOHN STEEL.



THE TENACITY with which J. Frank Carpenter clung to high ideals and the persistence with which he followed them were the dominant characteristics of his life. In business, in civic affairs, in his religious work, his aims were the highest and he carried the force of his convictions with everything he undertook.

He allied himself closely with the business interests of his city. In its Commercial Club, as president and as a member of its executive committee, he gave his time and his talents unsparingly.

For two years, I served with him on the executive committee to which were referred, from time to time, matters pertaining to the commercial and industrial welfare of the city. I noted the patience and the care and business sagacity with which he considered the questions coming before the committee, and the thoroughness and unflagging energy with which he devoted himself to the work.

His advice was sought and valued on every matter of public importance the club touched. I was deeply impressed with the zeal of his public endeavor and I often thought how unselfishly and unreservedly he was giving himself for others. Moreover, in his life he represented a type of the highest Christian manhood I have ever met. His life was so clean, his purposes were so lofty, and the ring of his sterling metal so true! Nothing of the pretentious about him, but he always carried with him the force of his masterful personality that challenged admiration and commanded respect.

HOWARD H. BALDRIGE.



TO EXPRESS my impressions of the life and character of J. Frank Carpenter will require more than 150 words. It was my fortune to be closely associated with Mr. Carpenter in many ways during his life-time and am prepared to bear testimony to the fact that in frankness, fidelity, and ability, he had few equals. There was about this man something that reminded one of the innocence of a boy and the ability of a great man.

Clear-headed, conscientious, faithful to fact, he became, and always was during his life-time in Omaha, a leader in the business affairs of the city. His advice was sought because every one knew that whatever opinion he gave was from the heart. His assistance was asked for because every one knew that it was potential.

I have known but few men possessing such a clear conception of duty to city, home and family, as did J. Frank Carpenter, and in his death we have lost a citizen loved and respected by every one who knew him or knew of him.

I could recount many instances of his faithfulness to principle but the space allotted me will not permit of such digression. I can only add that I at all times was proud to be considered his friend and co-worker in public matters in which the City of Omaha was interested.

EUCLID MARTIN.



FOR A PERIOD covering nearly twenty years, I was intimately acquainted with Mr. J. Frank Carpenter, and his loyal friendship will always be one of the pleasant memories of my life. His ideals

were always high and noble, and his courage in standing up for what he considered right and best, was a perpetual inspiration to his host of friends. He was a man of great energy and of varied activities. He was a tireless worker not only in building up the splendid business with which he was connected, but he was always allied with all of the leading civic and charitable instrumentalities of the community in which he lived. His personal habits were of the very highest character, his nature was simple and unaffected, without any shams or pretenses whatever. He was always kindly in his bearings towards everyone and cheerful and helpful to all who came in contact with him. His loss to this community, as well as to his friends and relatives, will be a very serious misfortune. All honor be to his memory.

ARTHUR C. SMITH.



DEATH INDEED loves a shining mark,
when he calls into the eternal silence a
man like J. Frank Carpenter, whom it
was my good fortune to know intimately
almost from the day of his arrival in Omaha.

To our finite minds it seems the summons came too soon.

He was in the full flush of manhood, the callowness of
youth out-grown; old age still far away when life at its brightest
and best should have been his portion.

He was a useful man, capable, resourceful, high-souled and
honorable; a good citizen; a true friend, and all the world
might look upon him and say "Here was a man."

In the midst of many activities the summons came and he
stepped bravely into the Great Unknown.

He has gone and we can only bow to the inevitable and
say, "Thy will be done."

EDGAR ALLEN



J. FRANK CARPENTER was one of the most dependable men that it has ever been my privilege to know. In my six years experience as General Missionary and Corresponding Secretary of the Nebraska Baptist State Convention, during three years of which time Mr. Carpenter served most acceptably as the President of the Convention, I never failed to find in him the most sympathetic and helpful interest. It was largely to his credit that the Convention during that period made such rapid strides.

Mr. Carpenter combined to an almost ideal degree, sterling Christian principles with the most thoroughgoing business methods. He was never satisfied to let the Lord's work drift, as is so common with many; while in his own private business enterprises he was always conscious of the fact that he was a follower of Jesus Christ. Personally, I treasure his memory most fondly, and have received from my contact with him, a lasting inspiration.

C. W. BRINSTAD.



IN THE death of J. Frank Carpenter, not only Omaha, but the whole country has lost a splendid man; a man to whom the coming generation will look with pride and the greatest honor. By his friends he was always much beloved, not only for his kind and gracious manner, but for his sterling qualities and uprightness. It was my fortune to be associated with him on an executive board which pertained to the upbuilding of our city and the welfare of its business interests, and there was no man more interested or gave his time and abilities more willingly than he, and it was largely due to his stand and logical arguments that the greatest good was accomplished. His life was an inspiration and in his death he has left hosts of friends to mourn him.

G. W. CLABAUGH.



THE BUSINESS community records a great loss in the death of J. Frank Carpenter, a man every inch of him. A character with but few equals.

Respected by his fellow man, possessing many attributes hard to duplicate, an amiable disposition with lofty purposes, broad business preceptions, a careful financier, a fellow sensitiveness for peace and harmony, a noble sentiment.

These characteristics have gained for J. Frank Carpenter the admiration, respect and good will of those who knew him.

The bereaved family has the writer's most profound sympathy in their great loss.

A. HOSPE.



J. FRANK CARPENTER, as I knew him for the past 15 years;—He was an honorable, upright and a successful merchant, a courteous and genial companion, he had been identified with the Commercial interests and the upbuilding of his city for a great many years and had the confidence and respect of the entire community, taking great interest up to the time of his death in the uplifting of mankind. His commanding influence was exerted in favor of better methods, better men, and better morals. He was a man who feared God and dealt justly with his fellow men. He was always active in organizations connected with the church as well as with his business. Was a man of high character and bequeathed to his family an untarnished name. He was dearly beloved by hosts of friends who in future years will miss his counsel and advice.

W. M. GLASS.



TO KNOW J. Frank Carpenter was worth
(to me) a trip across the Atlantic Ocean.
Some men inspire us because of their
dash and bravery, but Frank Carpenter
will live in my memory as a business man

of gentleness and integrity.

I have been with Mr. Carpenter in councils where it took
real manhood to stand for the right. He stood straight. A
great many years ago it was written of Him, "The memory of
the just is blessed."

DAVID COLE.



TWENTY YEARS ago I was pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church, holding services in a little chapel on 24th street, near Cummings. Frank Carpenter visited that uninviting chapel the first Sunday morning after arriving in Omaha with his brother Isaac, to establish their paper business. He visited the other Baptist churches in the city and afterwards said "Clark needs me in the Northern part of the city." With a deep conviction that he could do more good in that portion of the city than any place else, he located there. Other sections of the city were more desirable as residence sections, but the controlling motive of his life being the glory of Christ and the uplifting of humanity, he rented a cottage, as did his brother Isaac, near the little chapel, and with the same self-sacrificing spirit which led Judson to Burmah, he helped to bring the little church from its feeble beginnings to a membership of over five hundred with one of the best church buildings in the city.

A personal friendship between us sprang up at the first and grew with each advancing year until the time his health was broken. His noble, generous, self-sacrificing, cheerful and hopeful nature was just the same in church work, in Child Saving Institute work, in home visitations and in recreations, camping, fishing and hunting together. He was always, under all circumstances, the same genuine true friend.

A. W. CLARK.



DO NOT believe that I was ever more shocked than when I heard that J. Frank Carpenter was dead. I had heard that he had broken down, but had supposed that a few weeks of rest were all that would be necessary, and that he would then return again to his work with all his strength of mind and body.

It was my privilege to become acquainted with him when he came to Omaha, something more than twenty years ago, and through business relations to be rather closely associated from that time until the close of his career. His was an active life, and he accomplished much. He did much to build up the business of the Carpenter Paper Company, which has grown to be one of the largest wholesale paper houses in the United States; he was prominent in the work of his church; one of the leaders of the Commercial Club, in the building of the Auditorium, and in various other public enterprises. Notwithstanding all the time which was necessarily given to these various duties, he never neglected his home or his family. His home life was an ideal one, and the sympathy of all his friends goes out to his family and his brothers in their terrible bereavement.

During all my acquaintance with Mr. Carpenter I never knew him to do an unmanly act. I never knew him to lose his temper or to shirk any duty which was required of him. One

of the young men who worked for him nine years told me that he had never heard Mr. Carpenter say an unkind word.

He had a great capacity for work, and there is no doubt but that because of his forgetfulness of self and his knowledge of his strength that he attempted to do more than even he, strong as he was, could stand. It is hard for one when he has started business in a small way where he does most of the work with his own mind and his own hands, to realize as the business grows that it becomes necessary to place some of the burdens on others. He has had his way of doing things, and it seems almost impossible to secure the help of others to do them in the same way; hence he goes on and on until at last tired nature surrenders, and he can do no more. Thus it was in this case. In this there is a lesson to others. Here was a man, strong in mind and body, temperate in all his habits, cheerful in his disposition, and yet his life was wrecked by his not being temperate in his work.

So genial was he that his friends seldom addressed him as Mr. Carpenter. To me he was always "Frank." We shall miss his pleasant smile, his hearty greeting and his kindly advice, but we shall remember him always as one whom it was a pleasure to know, as one who did much for his city, his church, his family and his friends, and we feel sure that in that future existence for which we all so firmly hope that he has received the commendation "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

SAMUEL REES.



I NEVER knew a cleaner, better and abler man. His methods demonstrated that one can lead a successful business life and be a Christian gentleman. He was above small advantages. He resolved doubt in favor of those less fortunate than himself. He was an actor, not a dreamer. When others prophesied, he accomplished. Success was his, fairly and honestly achieved.

He was my friend and I knew him well. For nearly twenty years, his loyalty to me, flowing from a generous heart and a strong mentality, was constant. He was quick in sympathy and appreciation. His good will was shown in things beneficial for his friends..

Good, kindly, whole-souled Frank! His place in my heart will remain vacant. I give him my strongest tribute of high personal regard and affection. His friends lose much, his brothers more, his wife and children, whom he loved so dearly, most. The church, the business community, and all moral and substantial influences for the advancement of the city of Omaha suffer an irreparable misfortune.

BYRON G. BURBANK.



I READ with the deepest regret of the death of my late friend and employer J. Frank Carpenter.

During the 16 years of my association with Mr. Carpenter I always found him a friend as well as an employer and always considered and found him a man of the highest character and of fine business qualifications; ever ready to see wrong turned into right and always ready to do his part in its accomplishment. He was always keenly alive to the rights of others.

I extend to his family and friends my very deepest sympathy in their sad bereavement.

CHAS. J. HESSE.



J. FRANK CARPENTER was a type of the successful young business man of high ideals and great achievements.

It is rare that one man combines the elements of character and the graces of life which enabled my friend to be a living part in so many groups of this city's progressive men. In business he was a master; in religion and philanthropy he was an active participant; in the walks where he went for pleasure, his presence was sought and his good cheer was always cherished.

He was a strong man, yet considerate. He was bold, but conciliatory. He had sound judgment and was not afraid to launch out upon it.

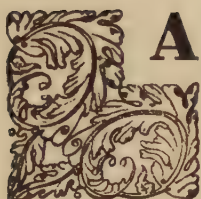
His impress is upon many of Omaha's best achievements and time will only make clearer the good he wrought in our midst.

J. A. SUNDERLAND.



IN THE death of Mr. J. Frank Carpenter Omaha has lost one of its best and most public-spirited citizens. It was my pleasure to be associated with him in various matters, both business and otherwise, and I always found it was his principal desire to be fair and just with his fellow men, and I feel that Omaha has suffered an irreparable loss in his death.

F. B. JOHNSON.



MAN always courteous, genial and helpful, he bound his friends to him by the strongest ties. Nor did he reserve his wealth of friendship to an inner circle of near friends. He was so large a factor in our business, civic, social and religious life, that he is missed in any group of men. Any man's success gave him pleasure, any man's failure touched his sympathies. To meet my friend, J. Frank Carpenter, no more in daily, friendly intercourse, is to me a great loss.

GERDON W. NOBLE.



AMONG the many—very many—delightful recollections that “Come to me o’er and o’er” in connection with our Commercial Club history none there are more warmly cherished and inspiring than those with which are associated the name of our highly esteemed Brother and Prince of good fellows, J. Frank Carpenter, and in whose character, it is my joyful privilege to attest, was in so large measure combined those elements the which—as so well we know—must needs exist to constitute that “Noblest work of God—an honest man,” and when those qualities of mind and heart with which he was, as we know, so richly endowed, is added the consideration of his exceptional business qualifications and the benefits to our organization derived therefrom, in some slight measure appreciated, perhaps, may be the irreparable loss we have, as a body, been called upon to sustain through his recent sad taking off. Upon his grave here laying then, as I do, in concert with others—my Brothers of the Club this wreath of affectionate regards.

HENRY K. BURKET.



I FIRST met Frank Carpenter in December, 1900 when he called at our store on Howard Street to welcome our firm to Omaha. I have always remembered his cheerful words of welcome, and his characteristic invitation "to call on us if we can serve you in any way." From that time up to the time of his death I saw him or met him almost daily and grew to know him intimately.

I don't think Frank Carpenter was capable of making a misstatement regarding a business transaction. His absolute honesty, singleness of purpose, strong personality and his clear business judgment made him a power among men whether employed in his private affairs, the affairs of the great house of which he was one of the founders, or working for the public good.

His help in the work of building up this commercial center was enormous. Although always a busy man he was never too busy to use his influence, time and money in the interest of Omaha. Death is always sad, but in the death of this good, high-minded, honorable man, our city has suffered a distinct loss and one which she can ill afford.

THOS. C. BYRNE.



FEW MEN in Nebraska have been more prominent in local offices, or more conspicuous in the development of Omaha, than J. Frank Carpenter. I knew him intimately for twenty years, and always found him faithful to himself, his business interest, and to his friends, and during the past ten years especially loyal to the business interests of Omaha generally. He was a natural leader in all public affairs that pertained to the city's business interests, and a most prominent factor in their development. He was a broad-gage man, of strong character and convictions; high-minded, with liberal views and most generous impulses. His was indeed, a striking personality, and he enjoyed in an abundant measure, the love and esteem of a wide circle of loyal friends.

E. G. McGILTON.



IN THE death of J. Frank Carpenter this community has met with the loss of one of its ablest and best citizens. In any effort for the public good he was always a leader, whom none excelled in intelligent and zealous labor.

Though burdened with great business cares and responsibilities, he was always ready to devote his full share of time and energy to the needs of this city, which he loved, and of which he was very proud. An ardent supporter of everything tending to the improvement of the commercial, social and moral life of his city and he was ever ready to wage war against all evils that were made for opposite conditions. Devoted to his friends, genial and kind, he was the most lovable of men.

F. A. NASH.



FOR NEARLY twenty years I was privileged to know the late J. Frank Carpenter and my estimate of him cannot be measured in words.

In business life, social and family duties, the same Christian impulse directed his every action. His strong personality, his tender sympathy and brotherly love for mankind won him lifelong friends, and has raised a monument to his memory in the hearts of more people than any man I have ever known.

He was a true friend, a just man and one of God's noblemen. His memory is an inspiration to all who knew him. My personal loss is too great to describe, as I loved him as a brother and I look back to the years of association with him as one of the greatest blessings of my life.

GEO. W. RYAN.



TO FORGET Mr. Carpenter would be impossible. A man whose life was an inspiration to all who came in contact with him representing as he did, truth, honesty, wisdom, purity, gentleness, kindness and power, and whose influence for good was felt far and wide; one who has helped many to take a step upward in life's struggle. And though to mortal sense he is not with us, the immortal and real man still lives and as he travels onward and upward, he will lead his own dear ones until in their consciousness perfect harmony and peace shall reign.

H. G. STREIGHT.



I KNEW J. Frank Carpenter first of all as a brother. He was fraternal in spirit. His right hand gave a warm, cordial grasp. His lips dropped words of brotherly kindness. His face beamed with the sympathy of his heart. Business was never so pressing but that he could take time to listen, to give intelligent advice, and afford practical help if the case was a worthy one.

Others can tell better than I what clearness of vision, what shrewdness, what executive energy marked his business life. I knew him best in that sphere where he applied business methods and business energy to the management of church affairs. He was a trusted leader in the councils of his denomination. He was the president of the Baptist Young People's Union of Nebraska at the time when that Union was the most aggressive and prosperous. He was for three years the president of the Nebraska Baptist State Convention and presided over its deliberations with a mastery of its business so absolute and with a treatment of all his brethren so courteous and just as left nothing to be desired. J. Frank Carpenter was a prince and a great man in Israel.

GEO. SUTHERLAND.



IT WAS my good fortune to become acquainted with Mr. J. Frank Carpenter soon after he became a citizen of Omaha in the year 1887; and it has also been my good fortune to be intimately acquainted with him during all the time since that date. It is well known that he was associated with his brothers in the paper business, and I have watched with very great interest the growth of the business. During the times of smaller things in the business he was not afraid to put his own shoulder to the wheel, nor to do anything connected with the business that might be found necessary, and in the later years of his life all of us who were acquainted with him know that his genius and ability contributed very largely to the establishment and growth of the great business of the Carpenter Paper Company. He had characteristics that made him successful. One of these was his untiring zeal and application to the details of business; another was his aptitude to grasp the situation under every circumstance and to force success, which would not have been possible with many men; another was his entire sincerity of purpose and frankness in his business transactions; another characteristic was his knowledge of men and circumstances, and the wise discretion with which he disposed of questions that were presented. In business he was incapable of a mean transaction, and those who dealt with him felt that it was so. It was by reason of these faculties that he became very popular with all his business associates, and was trusted and confided in by them, so that he became one of the most prominent business men in the west.

It was also my peculiar privilege to be acquainted with him in his home and in connection with his social relations. His kind and affectionate nature associated with his discretion and sincerity, made him a model husband, father and neighbor. I think there were few men in the city of Omaha who

had more friends than he, or appreciated them more highly than he; always kind and jovial; always ready to help the unfortunate, and always ready to sympathize with those in trouble. He was a true friend under all circumstances. It is very difficult for me to put in words my high appreciation of our friend and to express my deepest sorrow at being parted from him. Personally, I have missed him very much and I shall always miss him as long as my memory serves me.

It was also my great privilege to be intimately associated with him in church and religious work from the very beginning of his life in Omaha. He at once connected himself with a small and struggling Baptist church and devoted to it some of his best energies and a great deal of his means. He was an officer of the Calvary Baptist church, holding a very responsible position in the church during all of the time since he became connected with it. To him was largely entrusted the conduct of its business, and to him also must be attributed a large share of credit for its spiritual advancement and prosperity. He was the same thoughtful, kind and efficient officer when the church came to have more than 500 members that he was when it was a little struggling church of 75; and it is impossible for those of us who were associated with him as officers of the church and as individual members of the same, to express fully what our hearts feel. We miss him more than words can tell, and although he has gone, we love him as much as when he was living. His good works remain and keep alive his memory in our hearts.

In conclusion, I would like to say, that J. Frank Carpenter was a man of eminent abilities as a business man; he was a most valued citizen; he was a true and tried friend; he was a loving father and husband; he was a genuine and faithful Christian, and it would be well if we could all emulate him in this life and strive to live as well as he did.

L. D. HOLMES.



J. FRANK CARPENTER was a manly man, and a true Christian; a devoted husband and father. As viewed by one who enjoyed its hospitality his home life was ideal. It was my privilege to enter once into that inner circle and bow with the family in prayer at the home altar. Here was where he gathered strength for his magnificent work for the church and the world. Every true soldier of righteousness owes him a debt of remembrance and gratitude, for he was interested in all moral reforms and a liberal supporter of all the forces that stand for the betterment of home, of city, of state and nation.

When disease attacks the heart or preys upon the lung power or any portion of this frail body succumbs to its influence, the sympathy and support of widely extended friendships may be depended upon, but when the nervous system, so intangible and yet so real, yields to its power and unsettles by intense agony the very throne of reason, too often that sympathy and support fails. Not less shall we render to him and his the tribute of love and gratitude because his life went out in the hour of intense darkness. He who knoweth our frame and remembereth that we are dust is now the Comforter of the bereaved family and the Judge and Rewarder of His faithful servant, while we who continue in the battle will cherish the memory of his brave spirit and useful service.

JOHN H. CHAPMAN.



TO THE thousands of people in Omaha and throughout the West who came in personal touch with our friend, J. Frank Carpenter, he was known as a forceful, clear-headed and successful business man with sound judgment and strong convictions; a leader in Christian and charitable work, always ready to do his part in helping to build up the community in which he lived; giving willingly time and money without stint to every cause for the relief of distress and the upbuilding of human character; a lover of clean sports who thoroughly enjoyed participating personally in them; a kind and loving husband and father. In all things "touching life with upward impulse."

To me, personally, he was more than this: He was my friend. Can I say more? Yes; for there are degrees of friendship. Our friendship was of that close and intimate character which reveals the inner self; the secret thoughts; the aims and ambitions; the hopes and desires. To me was revealed the fountain from which flowed the never-ceasing springs of human sympathy and love, the source of so much good and personal happiness to others.

He is dead; yet he liveth. May God, in His infinite goodness, impress upon us the lesson of his life.

This brief testimonial and my love and sympathy are respectfully tendered to the bereaved wife and children of our departed friend. May God sustain and comfort them.

JOHN H. DUMONT.



THE LAST time I saw him he was in the full flower of mature manhood. He, to me, approximated the highest type of civic citizenship; he was the keystone to the enterprises he associated himself with. The charitable and Christian organizations that he materially aided and gave liberally his time, cannot readily fill the vacancy. Always performing his work with good cheer, believing that his strength would sustain him in all his material as well as his Christian endeavors, his zeal was of that high order that he loaded the cable of life to a parting strain which called for a sorrowful good-night.

E. E. BRUCE.



IN THE passing away of J. Frank Carpenter, all those that knew him, indeed lost a good friend.

It was my good fortune to meet and become acquainted with him some twenty years ago, and as time rolled on, and I became better acquainted with him, I learned to know that he was a good, true and kind man, not living only for self, but living to do good unto others.

I know that he was an obedient son, a good father, a good brother and a good friend, and I once heard his aged father say, "Frank is a noble boy."

It has been my pleasure to be with him when away from home; when those that were in great want asked help of him, and he bestowed it on them, I think, with greater pleasure than he would have extended help to those less needy of it.

To illustrate his character,—I was at one time visiting in a neighboring state with J. Frank Carpenter, and as we were walking along the street of the town, an old gentleman came along, and upon seeing Frank, rushed to him and threw his arms around him and expressed gladness at seeing him. The scene was, indeed, a touching one. After the old gentleman had left us, I asked Frank what was the cause of this man's great admiration for him, and his reply was "that he had simply helped him a little when he was in need of same."

In the death of Mr. Carpenter we lose a friend and adviser, which only those who knew his character can appreciate.

A. T. KLOPP.

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